2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
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PART II

CHAPTER SIX

Security, Colony and Protectorate

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THE first duty of all Governors and Administrators is to maintain security in the area under their authority, and in order to enable them to carry out this primary function they are provided with security forces which may take the form of police, armed or unarmed, and troops, regular or irregular, and even aircraft. In Aden when I became Governor there were two separate security problems, the first of which was the maintenance of law and order in the Colony itself, and the second was the maintenance of security in the more settled areas of the Protectorate, while at the same time increasing the sphere in which our security measures were effective until the whole of the Protectorate territory had achieved a degree of security which would enable development both political and economic to take place.

In the Colony there were available to me, as Governor, Civil Police in adequate numbers, a small detachment of Armed Police, and under the command of the Air Officer Commanding, a reserve of British troops in the form of a detachment of the Royal Air Force Regiment. In addition, there were also the Aden Protectorate Levies for use during a period of disturbance to guard key points, in particular in the neighbourhood of the Khormaksar military installations.

In the Protectorate there were various forces and formations available and at my own and the Rulers' disposal; in addition there were aircraft of the Royal Air Force operating from the Colony and also from landing grounds in the Protectorate. Later I will describe the employment of the Protectorate

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
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security forces in further detail, but for the moment I want to confine my attention to security in the Colony.

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The Colony, to all outward appearances, and they can be very deceptive, always seemed to be one of the most peaceful places on earth where nothing was ever likely to happen, but in fact it only required a minor incident at the wrong time to cause really serious trouble and to do so not within a matter of days, but almost of minutes. The reason, of course, is not far to seek; it is that there are in the Colony three races who have no special love for each other. The Jews are disliked and despised by the Arabs whom they fear, while the Arabs in their turn dislike the Somalis who are, at the best of times, a truculent lot. Therefore, we were always liable to have trouble between the Arabs and the Jews which might well spread to the Hindu community, or between the Somalis and the Arabs, or between all three, and in no time, much to the surprise very often of successive Air Officers Commanding, the summer skies had clouded over and we were having a devil of a storm, which with firm measures would pass as quickly as it began. A stranger would be astonished to learn on his arrival in tranquil Aden that inter-racial disturbances had resulted in one or two deaths only two or three days before.

I do not want to give the impression that Aden is particularly prone to disorder, and that civil disturbances are the rule rather than the exception because this would be a false picture. What I mean is that, on the rare occasions when there is trouble, it comes with incredible swiftness, due to the latent racial animosities that are always present.

To give an instance of my first experience of the speed of events when inter-racial trouble started in the Colony, I must go back to 1931, when there occurred the first anti-Jewish riot. At that time there were some 6,000 Jews living in Aden, most of them in Crater in their own quarter close by the Boys' Secondary School. Some of them were very wealthy and most of them were in business either as shopkeepers or merchants or petty traders, and generally speaking, they kept very much to themselves, were self-effacing and their contacts with the Arabs were reasonably good. From time to time,

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
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were being taken care of. I walked round and talked to them; there, also, I saw the Arab who had been shot, and learned that there was a reasonable chance that he would not succumb to his wound. This relieved my mind, because although sharp lessons are necessary when people behave as these people had, and when the occasion arises the police must do their duty even to the extreme length of opening fire on a crowd, one has in one's heart sympathy for the foolish and hates to see them suffer too much for their faults.

By the time the Sultan and I had finished our tour as it were, things were in much better shape, thanks to the efficiency of the police and the prompt action of the Police Officer who had fired and by so doing had brought a number of the rioters to their senses.

Two days later, except for stones and dustbin lids, which had been used by the Somalis as shields, lying about, there was practically no sign of the riot, and everybody appeared to be working together perfectly amicably.

The incidents which I have related above will give some idea of the speed with which the normal tranquillity of the Colony can be disturbed and a state of affairs come about which may require, not only police action of the most extreme nature, but also intervention by the military forces.

The stationing of a detachment of the Royal Air Force Regiment was, as I have said, a direct development of the 1947 Arab-Jewish riots and the Commission of Inquiry into the riots which was held in January 1948 and which advocated the presence of British troops in the Colony for internal security purposes. They certainly have my deepest gratitude for their wise decision, but I would not like it to be thought for one moment that the Aden Protectorate Levies will never be fit to undertake Internal Security duties—far from it—even in the few years which lapsed between the riots and my return from Aden there has been considerable improvement in discipline, and although I consider that in fairness to all races the presence of British troops is still essential, there is no doubt that in time the Levies will be capable of undertaking any duty they may be required to perform. It is, like everything else, only a

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701 question of sound and inspired leadership and the discipline which flows from such leadership.

626 Security in the Protectorate was a very much wider problem than in the Colony and there were more diverse forces at my disposal to ensure a reasonable degree of protection and to punish those who wilfully created disturbances. Prior to 1937 no-one had paid very much attention to the Protectorate, and His Majesty's Government certainly had not attempted to honour their obligations. I doubt if they were really fully aware of what those obligations were to the people of this great territory. Beyond ensuring, in so far as was possible, that the trade routes remained open so that the trade of the Colony was not impaired by the wild and woolly ruffians in the hills behind, very little was done, and what was done was generally by the old-fashioned method of placating unruly and tiresome individuals with rifles and ammunition and money.

626 631 After 1937 there was a profound change in policy and the emphasis was then on reducing the number of lethal weapons in private possession and building up the authority of the Treaty Chiefs by providing them with the means to maintain security in their own States. His Majesty's Government had come to a better understanding of their obligations and realised that the first essential to any form of progress must be security. The Rulers were encouraged, therefore, to form their own armed police forces, and they received assistance in arming, clothing and paying for these forces.

625 701 By the time I became Governor there had come into being in each State a body of men who were known as Tribal Guards and who were at the Ruler's disposal to maintain his authority and for use in any sudden security emergency. Starting as a completely untrained force they had gradually been brought up to a standard of efficiency and effectiveness which was a credit to the instructors who had been made available from the [714] Government Guards. On ceremonial occasions they were very smart indeed, dressed in khaki shirts and khaki kilts with red cloth head-dresses, but in an emergency they left these trappings at home and there was nothing outwardly to distinguish

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
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them from their fellow tribesmen, except their superior armament and well filled cartridge belts.

The Tribal Guards are the first line of offence and defence of the Ruler and in only two of the States is there any more elaborate organisation. Lahej has a private army which was, when I was in Aden, a sorry collection of ragamuffins, some 200 strong, whose pipe Band was much in demand on St. Andrew's night at the Union Club, that centre of European civilisation and culture in the Colony; otherwise, I am afraid this force had but little merit. The Quaiti Sultan has, at Mukalla, a Regular Army and the headquarters of his Armed Constabulary which, thanks very largely to the inspiration of Mr. W. H. Ingrams, C.M.G., O.B.E., who as Resident Adviser did so much for that country, were reasonably efficient. In appearance there is little to choose between the Regular Army and the Armed Constabulary, except that the former was considerably darker in hue, having been recruited largely from the Sultan's ex-slaves.

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Some years before an interesting conversation had taken place between the Quaiti Sultan and a Political Officer in Mukalla, at a time when Aden was threatened with a visit from one of the more rabid anti-slavery enthusiasts.

"Don't you think it would be a good idea, your Highness, if you were to release your slaves?" inquired the Political Officer, referring to the Palace slaves who numbered some 300 men and youths without taking into account their women folk. The Political Officer had led up to this question with a dissertation on the rights of man and world public opinion, and he had produced all the usual anti-slavery arguments with considerable eloquence, and he awaited the answer to his question with some anxiety. The Authorities in Aden, threatened by the advent of the enthusiast, were seriously worried about the slaves of Mukalla. Although, in fact, they were a lot of lazy well-fed good-for-nothings, there was no doubt that in theory they were slaves, and enthusiasts can never see out of both eyes at the same time.

"It is a very good idea," replied His Highness, "but I can release them only on one condition."

Aden

567 "What is the condition?" asked the Political Officer with considerable misgiving.

"You must agree to send troops here when I free them," answered the Sultan.

"What for?" asked the astonished Political Officer.

"To protect me, of course," said the Sultan.

"I am afraid I do not understand, your Highness," said the Political Officer much perplexed.

"I am surprised. Surely it's obvious? I feed and house and clothe my so-called slaves, and of course, their families. I give them presents on religious festivals and when they marry. I have not enough work for them to do and in consequence they have an easy life. Now, if I say to them that they are free and I don't propose to keep them any longer and that they must go away and earn their own living, I am afraid they won't be very pleased. They are simple people, you know, and prefer actual ease and comfort with only technical restraint to freedom and hard work, and as they are stronger than my army I must be certain of your help before I make them free," was the answer of the Sultan.

567 702 As usual with us a compromise was achieved and the slaves became the troops.

• 701 625 The backing for the Tribal Guards in the Western Protectorate comes from a body of men called the Government Guards, a fine lot who were originally raised and trained by Lord Belhaven and Stenton, when as Master of Belhaven he was a Political Officer working in the Protectorate. Indeed, it was his idea which brought them into being and the Protectorate should be extremely grateful to him for his happy thought and his hard work in the early formative months. They are under the general direction of the British Agent, who is the senior Political official responsible to the Governor for the Western half of the Protectorate, and are a Government force paid for from the annual subvention from Her Majesty's [714] Government. Well armed and well trained with distinctive black head-dresses, they play many dangerous and difficult parts. Led by their British and Arab officers they are always ready to support the Tribal Guards when local difficulties

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
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prove too great for them to overcome alone, and to find escorts for Political Officers in troublesome areas. The forts on the Aden-Yemen frontier and in the less secure regions in the Protectorate are garrisoned by them. Always ready to move, always ready to fight and always cheerful, their early history can be read in Lord Belhaven's autobiography, *The Uneven Road*, which nobody can read without intense enjoyment. Many of the guards have died or been grievously wounded in doing their duty; and although they are soldiers of the Queen, very few people outside their own country have ever even heard of their existence.

In the Eastern Protectorate the equivalent of the Government Guards is the Hadhrami Bedouin Legion, the men of which are in every way their equal and whose role is precisely the same and which came into existence through the foresight of Ingrams. They are a tough and courageous body of men who carry out their desert patrols on the borders of the Ruba-al-Khali with a fine disregard for climatic conditions or personal safety.

The third and last line of locally recruited troops are the Aden Protectorate Levies who were raised shortly after the Great War of 1914–18, strangely enough as the First Yemen Infantry by Lt.-Colonel M. C. Lake, C.M.G. Recruited from the same source as the Government Guards they are regular soldiers and were, during the time that I was Governor of Aden, officered by officers of the Royal Air Force Regiment on secondment, although the change to include the Army in the source from which officers could be obtained and which has now come about, was at that time under consideration. In normal times the Levies are stationed within the Colony limits and are moved by air or by lorry to help the Government Guards whenever the need arises. In the early days of my term of office they travelled in great long lorry convoys, very vulnerable and painfully slow, but later, I am glad to say, there were drastic and necessary changes and the emphasis was put on the air as a medium of transport.

In theory the Levies are available for use in the Eastern as

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
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well as the Western Protectorate, but in practice they have been far too busy in recent years dealing with Yemeni-inspired raiding and other disturbances in the Western Protectorate and only once in their history have they been employed in the Hadhramaut. The Levies have had heavy responsibilities and very hard has been their lot and very scanty the praise that those brave men have received. Shortly before my term of office expired a detachment of regular troops from the Army was stationed in Aden, to my great satisfaction. They were invaluable.

So far I have dealt solely with the Land Forces, but with only a few thousand men, possibly 4,000 in all, however well trained and however well armed and led, it would be virtually impossible to safeguard a frontier line of over 700 miles in length running through the most difficult country from aggression, and at the same time to maintain any reasonable degree of security in an area where social conditions today are equivalent to those existing in the Highlands of Scotland in the mid-eighteenth century, and which is twenty-five per cent. larger than the United Kingdom. That the frontier has been maintained and that security has increased of recent years is due very largely to the Royal Air Force, acting in the closest accord with the ground forces. Without the Royal Air Force my task would indeed have been difficult; I will go further and say quite frankly it would have been impossible.

As Governor I frequently had to authorise the use of air action against frontier raiders or recalcitrant tribesmen within Protectorate limits, and I have never been able to follow the almost hysterical reaction with which some sections of the population of these islands are affected whenever they read in the newspapers that bombing has taken place, or indeed that any form of air action has been used. It is for this reason that I shall deal at some length with that most humane of all the various methods by which law and order can be maintained by force, the employment of aircraft.

I do not propose to enter the lists on the side of those who favour this form of policing, nor do I propose to side with the many people who have genuine misgivings, but I am going

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
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normally time is required to assess the value of such evidence before action can be taken to deal with the situation. To rely solely on Agents and Post Commanders for information would result in many false alarms with consequent waste of time and would fatigue unnecessarily the military forces charged with the task of frontier control.

The ideal is a combination of air and land, and that is precisely how watch along the Aden frontier is maintained. The frontier Posts are sited in strategic positions and are provided with W.T. sets, but owing to the nature of the ground they are often many miles apart, especially on the Aden-Saudi frontier where their number is strictly conditioned by their accessibility to adequate supplies of water. Information comes in from the Posts either from the Political Officer for the area who may be there at the time, or from the local Commander of the Post, and it is checked forthwith by a reconnaissance flight by the Royal Air Force when it relates to troop movements or tribal concentration. It is often only a matter of an hour or so from the time that the information is received to the time that the pilot's report confirming or disproving the information is available. In times of particular tension reporting from Posts is supplemented by frontier patrols, by aircraft flying along the Aden side of the frontier. These patrols have proved to be particularly effective over the sandy and stony desert across which runs the Aden-Saudi Arabian frontier; camels and vehicles can be hidden in Wadis and can travel at night, but neither camels nor vehicles can pass over open country, especially sandy country, without leaving tracks for the airmen to see in the morning.

Speedy and accurate information from the desert areas and from the mountainous regions would be impossible without the use of aircraft. In both types of country the air-land form of frontier control and reconnaissance has been proved to be not only the most efficient, but also by far the most economical both in men and machines, and in money also. It is not inhuman and is not unsporting. True, the Yemen, in my time, had no Air Force and Saudi Arabia nothing much in that line, but the object is to prevent frontier violation not only by our

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
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neighbours, but also by our own people, in which we are doing our neighbours a service.

Much has been said and written in the Press about frontier violation by reconnaissance aircraft operating from Aden. Ninety-nine times out of a hundred such reports are without foundation. It is impossible for any but the most skilled trained observer on the ground to predict precisely, without the aid of precision instruments, where an aircraft is flying in relation to the ground, especially if it is at any height. Errors do occur from time to time, but they are few and far between and are generally errors of navigation committed by navigators inexperienced in the conditions prevailing in the Aden Protectorate.

The next essential, after information of an incursion has been received and confirmed, is action. The intruder must be evicted —that is an immediate necessity. If you catch a stranger in your house in the middle of the night packing up the spoons, you try to arrest him and to kick him out. You are quite entitled to do so. If he seems to be too much for you to tackle alone you call the Police and they take on the task. If the intruder shows fight and a disinclination to leave, the Police use "reasonable force" and take the fellow away. He may get hurt in the process; that's just too bad. No one writes to the papers and asks questions in the House of Commons, but transfer the scene to a Colony, multiply the intruder by one hundred, substitute a desire to burn and pillage for a liking for other people's spoons and an aeroplane for the police, and there are long articles in the Press and shoals of questions asked in the House of Commons.

Many people feel quite genuinely unhappy about the use of aircraft against ground forces, which is understandable, but springs from ignorance of the way in which aircraft are used. War and fighting with lethal weapons of the modern sort is beastly and horrible to a degree, and the longer it goes on, the more are the casualties and the more horrible it becomes. Therefore, surely the most humane thing to do is to stop the fighting as soon as possible with the fewest possible casualties, especially among our own troops, or to prevent it altogether.

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
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SIDDIQ AL HASSANI OF THE GOVERNMENT GUARDS, LEADER OF MY SIX PERSONAL GUARDS

[facing p. 115]

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

the east at Sanau where the only well was between Thamud and the Aden-Muscat frontier. These two places lie to the south of the great sand dunes of the Ruba-al-Khali amidst country more desolate than I have ever seen in any part of the world, and in my time I have flown over, driven over or walked and ridden over some pretty uninviting country.

I went to Thamud for the first time in 1953, before the fort had been built, to inspect the detachment of the Hadhrami Bedouin Legion who were living in holes scraped out of the hard sand and furnished with a canvas roof as some protection against the fierce heat of the sun. It was not easy to pick up the well from the air in that featureless country and it reflects great credit on the navigator and the pilot of the 'plane that they found the landing strip at the first attempt. We landed a mile or so from the well, and the only signs of life as we drove to the well were the store-cum-hospital tent, a modest affair of some 160 lbs., which normally would sleep a dozen men, and the two much smaller tents of the Military Assistant to the Resident Adviser and the Commandant of the Legion who had joined the detachment temporarily, the former a Scot from the Highlands and the latter a stout and jovial Arab on secondment from the Arab Legion in Trans-Jordan.

A guard was mounted, which I inspected, and I do not recall ever having seen a better turned-out or smarter body of men anywhere. These men, who are recruited from the bedouin tribes, are responsible among other things for guarding the long Aden-Saudi Arabian frontier, and they do their work very well. They work under the direct control of their own Arab officers who command the Frontier Posts and who are responsible for the motor patrols which operate between the Posts. These motor patrols are equipped with Land-Rovers and carry portable wireless sets which enable them to keep in touch with their parent Post. The Military Assistant is stationed hundreds of miles away in Mukalla where the Commandant also has his headquarters, so that these Arab officers and their men are normally very much on their own and quickly learn to use their own initiative in dealing with sudden emergencies and solving the various problems which are the normal lot of

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
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701 independent commanders in out-of-the-way places. In a serious crisis the Commandant of the Legion and the Military Assistant would be flown up to the nearest Post and the Commandant would take over the general control of the situation, sure in the knowledge that he could call on the Military Assistant, an experienced soldier, for advice at any time. Behind them both there was Hugh Boustead, capable of dealing with almost any situation single-handed, and behind him was Aden and the Royal Air Force ready and willing to help at any time. Everything was in good shape and I never had any qualms about our ability to deal with interlopers on the Saudi frontier.

648 In 1955 Her Majesty's Government formally declared the
[315] co-ordinates of the line south of which they would not tolerate the unrestricted movement of foreign subjects, and it was not long after this announcement was made to the Saudi Government that an American oil-survey party operating in two sections with an armed Saudi escort, trespassed in two separate places. They were located from the air and in no time the Military Assistant with an adequate escort from the Hadhrami Bedouin Legion, had moved by air and Land-Rover to intercept them. The error of their ways was pointed out to them and they withdrew promptly with their escort, leaving their expensive equipment behind in spite of being told they could take it with them. The escort had second thoughts and returned and were promptly taken into custody and disarmed without a shot being fired and later sent to Jedda by a civil Air Line. As far as I know the equipment is still in the desert; it certainly was in 1956 when I drove that way, and it was already showing very clearly the effects of sun, sand and the bedouin.

648 It was in the same year, 1955, that the Buraimi business in
669 Trucial Oman where the Sheikhdom of Abu Dhabi meets the
[181] Sultanate of Muscat and Oman, upset King Saud. Stolen fruit is always so much sweeter than that which is got by legitimate means and in this case both *hasad* and *sharf* were involved—"jealousy" and "honour", those two curses of Arabia which have kept the peoples and the countries divided for generations and generations. The King showed his irritation with Great Britain by sending arms to the bedouin in the northern areas

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
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locally in increasing the prestige of the Imam. As a threat to anyone they are not worthy of consideration and should prove an easy target for aircraft should the need to obliterate them ever arise. Perim is no longer of any military importance and has not been garrisoned since 1928 and has had no commercial importance since Lambert Brothers or the Perim Coal Company closed down some twenty years ago. The only claim to be of use that the island can make is that it is the site of two essential lighthouses, and even in this respect it is a nuisance as the presence of the lighthouses necessitates the maintenance on the island of a detachment of Armed Police. As there is no water on the island a condenser has to be manned and maintained to provide the lighthouse crews and the police with drinking water. Altogether Perim has become rather more of a liability than an asset.

I think it most unlikely that there ever has been any intention of the Yemen or Egypt to construct a submarine base at the southern end of the Red Sea. It would be most uncomfortable in the summer, within easy range of aircraft from Aden and altogether rather pointless. Submarines will probably visit Hodeidah if they have Commanders sufficiently skilful and intrepid to navigate through the reefs which surround that place, and they may call at Mocha farther south, but I see no menace to anyone in this and can only hope that Russian and Chinese gold and dollars will be wasted on so fruitless an enterprise.

The highlights of this otherwise rather gloomy picture are the loyalty of the Protectorate Forces and the renewed interest of the Protectorate States in the Federation plan. The Aden Protectorate Levies and the Government Guards consist, as we know, entirely of Arabs from the Protectorate States with British and Arab officers; in the Government Guards of equal status in the higher ranks. Their bravery and devotion to duty under continuous and almost intolerable strain has been outstanding, and they have won the admiration and respect of everyone by their work for their country in whose defence they have always been ready to lay down their lives.

Under the continued spur of Yemen aggression and subversion the States of the Protectorate seem at last to have realised

3:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1938) 1940 MM1 Aden MM1

Gulf, which enables oil to be supplied at favourable rates, and the consequent inducement to ships to call for bunkers has also led to an increase of transit trade to the East African and Red Sea ports. 504

PERIM

The first trace of the occupation of Perim Island goes back as far as 1738 when the French landed there after the bombardment of Mocha. It was not until 5th May, 1799, that the British took formal possession, but it is recorded that, owing to difficulties in maintaining a supply of water, they evacuated the island in September of that year. 175

Perim was reoccupied by the British in January, 1857, under instructions from Lord Elphinstone, Governor of Bombay, to Sir William Coghlan, Political Resident and Commander, Aden, and Lieutenant Templar in the "Mahi" was deputed to effect the occupation. The island was then placed under the control of an Assistant to the Political Resident at Aden. This arrangement continued until 1929, when the Manager of the Perim Coal Company was appointed Government Agent. On the closing down of the Perim Coal Company in October, 1936, the Commissioner of Police, Aden, was appointed Administrator of the Island. A police detachment is maintained at Perim, and the Administrator makes regular visits from Aden, usually performing the journey by air. 175 642

II.—GOVERNMENT

Prior to the 1st April, 1932, the territory now comprising the Colony was administered by a Resident under the control of the Government of Bombay. From the 1st April, 1932, Aden became a Chief Commissionership, and control was transferred from the Government of Bombay to the Governor-General of India in Council, the Chief Executive Officer at Aden being styled Chief Commissioner, Resident and Commander-in-Chief. On the 1st April, 1937, Aden was constituted a Crown Colony and was removed from the control of the Government of India. The Colony is administered by a Governor, who is also Commander-in-Chief, aided by an Executive Council which at present comprises five members. The Council consists of the persons holding the offices of Political Secretary and Civil Secretary and such other persons as the Governor in pursuance of instructions from His Majesty through the Secretary of State may from time to time appoint. At the present time, in addition to the ex-officio members, the Legal Adviser, the Finance Officer and the Chairman of the Port Trust and Settlement have been appointed to the Council. There is no Legislative Council. 642 643 645

Military Garrison

The Military Garrison of the Colony is under the command of an Air Officer Commanding. 701

There is a Naval Office in charge of the Naval Officer-in-Charge.

4:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1937) 1939 MM1 Aden MM1

Military Garrison.

701 The Military Garrison of the Colony is under the immediate command of an Air Officer Commanding and consists of Air Headquarters with its various departments, Headquarters Royal Artillery; 9th (Minden) Heavy Battery, R.A., 20th (Fortress) Company, R.E., No. 8(B) Squadron, R.A.F., a Section of Armoured Cars and the Aden Protectorate Levies. Air Headquarters, the Royal Artillery, the Royal Engineers and the Section of Armoured Cars are stationed at Tawahi (Steamer Point), while No. 8(B) Squadron, R.A.F. is at Khormaksar and Sheikh Othman.

There is a Naval Office (H.M.S. *Norfolk* III) in charge of the Naval Officer-in-Charge who also exercises general control over the Naval wireless station at Khormaksar.

III.—POPULATION.

161 According to the census of 1931, the total (civilian) population of the Aden Settlement was 45,992. This excludes the military forces and the population of Perim.

162 The following table shows the population distribution by caste and sex:—

No.	Caste.	Sex.	
		Males.	Females.
1	Arabs	18,388	10,341
2	Indian Mohammedans	2,829	2,393
3	Somalis	2,070	2,107
4	Hindoos	1,992	622
5	Jews	2,114	2,006
6	Parsis	236	96
7	Native Christians	339	207
8	Europeans	213	39
	Total	28,181	17,811

167 The total numbers of males and females show a marked disproportion, the males being 28,181 in number, whereas the females are only 17,811. This is due to the fact that most of the Arabs of the trade and coolie class from the interior come to Aden without their women folk.

IV.—HEALTH.

744 The staff of the Medical Department in Aden consists of the Senior Medical Officer, one Civil Surgeon, two Resident Medical
743 Officers and eight Assistant Medical Officers. There is a fully-qualified Lady Doctor attached to the Civil Hospital in Crater. The Senior Medical Officer is also Port Health Officer and has charge of the European General Hospital. There is also a Medical Officer of Health with an adequate subordinate staff.